

in limbo through no fault of their own and face obstacles to education and productivity.

Here are a few examples:

A young woman from central Florida came to the United States from Costa Rica with her family when she was very young. She graduated from an arts magnet school with a 4.2 GPA. She was accepted to every school she applied to, but she couldn't attend any because tuition was too high and she didn't qualify for financial aid. The DREAM Act will help.

An Armwood High School valedictorian faced obstacles as he tried to get college financial aid and scholarships. Despite perfect grades, he had a tough time getting the financial help he needed. The DREAM Act will help.

A young woman I personally know well was born in Mexico City and grew up with only her mother after she was brought to America as a baby. Despite stellar grades in high school, she was ineligible for in-state college tuition.

"It would have given me a lot more opportunities," she says. "It would have made me part of the fabric of this country that I have lived in my whole life and that I have contributed to my whole life."

In Florida, in-state tuition costs about \$5,200 per year, but out-of-state at the University of South Florida, \$16,000. At the University of Florida, it exceeds \$25,000. These students are barred from Florida's Bright Futures scholarship. Thousands of students are in this predicament. For them, hope is extinguished.

The DREAM Act will breathe new life into the hopes and dreams of thousands of young people who only know America as their home. We need to support and encourage higher education, instead of preventing and discouraging these teens from attending college or serving in the armed forces.

The DREAM Act would allow students who entered the U.S. before their 16th birthday, who have lived in the country for at least five years, who are in good moral standing and who have graduated from high school to be classified as permanent residents and pursue a path toward citizenship. As permanent residents, they would be able to apply for in-state tuition and federal student financial aid, enabling them to pursue the American Dream of higher education.

Young adults could also earn conditional permanent residency status if they complete 2 years in the military.

I am proud to co-sponsor this vital legislation and look forward to its swift passage so we can help put our hard-working and intelligent students on the road to citizenship.

HONORING SUPERIOR COURT
JUDGE JAMES ORLANDO AS THE
2010 WASHINGTON STATE ASSO-
CIATION FOR JUSTICE'S JUDGE
OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 13, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Superior Court Judge

James Orlando, whom the Washington State Association for Justice has honored as the 2010 Judge of the Year. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Judge Orlando for this commendable recognition.

Superior Court Judge James Orlando was honored as Judge of the Year at the Washington State Association for Justice's annual Law Day Dinner, which was held on May 6, 2010. The Washington State Association for Justice was originally formed in 1953 as the National Association of Claimants Compensation Attorneys and has since also been known as the Washington State Trial Lawyers Association. The organization presents the annual award to a judge who promotes our civil justice system to serve the people through the exercise of outstanding judicial ruling and leadership.

Judge Orlando has been praised for his work to reduce the backlog of criminal and civil cases in Pierce County. He is also a respected figure among many of his colleagues. As a graduate of the University of Washington and of the University of Puget Sound School of Law, Judge Orlando began his service with the Pierce County Superior Court as a Commissioner in 1995. In September 2000, then-Governor Gary Locke appointed him as Judge of the Superior Court. Judge Orlando served as the court's Presiding Judge in 2003 and 2004.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Judge Orlando on his remarkable honor and his venerable service to his country and community.

MEDICARE AND MEDICAID EXTENDERS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Medicare and Medicaid Extenders Act of 2010. This legislation would reverse a scheduled reduction of 25 percent in Medicare physician payments and extend current Medicare payment rates through December 31, 2011.

Though we are providing a year-long reprieve on the Medicare physician reimbursement problem, my strong preference is for this to be fixed on a permanent, long-term basis. Unfortunately, the Senate blocked legislation that was passed in the House that would have done exactly that.

This legislation is needed so that Medicare beneficiaries are able to continue to have access to the care they need and to see their doctor of choice. It will also provide some stability for physicians that provide services to Medicare beneficiaries so that they and their practices can adequately plan for the expenses they incur in treating patients.

In addition to extending current Medicare physician payment rates for 1 year, the legislation includes extensions of important expiring

health care provisions, including extending the Medicare therapy caps process, Transitional Medical Assistance which allows low-income families to maintain Medicaid coverage as they transition into employment, and the Qualifying Individual program that allows Medicaid to pay the Medicare Part B premiums for low-income Medicare beneficiaries.

I am also pleased that the legislation extends for 2 years the Special Diabetes Program for Type I Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Programs for Native Americans. Though the Special Diabetes Program doesn't expire until the end of 2011, early reauthorization is vital so that NIH can continue existing research projects. Otherwise, NIH would have to shut down those projects and the potential to develop new treatments for Type I Diabetes would be lost.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 14, 2010 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 15

Time to be announced

Finance

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Carolyn W. Colvin, of Maryland, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, Social Security Administration.

Room to be announced

DECEMBER 16

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

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